



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 1410

LCO No. 5351

* _____SB01410ED_APP032707_____*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS REFORM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-221a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

3 (a) For classes graduating from 1988 to 2003, inclusive, no local or
4 regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from
5 high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not
6 satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer than
7 four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in mathematics,
8 not fewer than three in social studies, not fewer than two in science,
9 not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education and not fewer
10 than one in physical education.

11 (b) [Commencing with classes graduating in 2004, and for each
12 graduating class thereafter] For classes graduating from 2004 to 2010,
13 inclusive, no local or regional board of education shall permit any
14 student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any
15 student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty

16 credits, not fewer than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than
 17 three in mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, including
 18 at least a one-half credit course on civics and American government,
 19 not fewer than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or
 20 vocational education and not fewer than one in physical education.

21 (c) Commencing with classes graduating in 2011, and for each
 22 graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education
 23 shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a
 24 diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a
 25 minimum of twenty-three credits, not fewer than four of which shall
 26 be in English, not fewer than four in mathematics, including two in
 27 algebra and one in geometry, not fewer than three and one-half in
 28 social studies, chosen from a combination including one in American
 29 history, one in world history, one in world geography, one-half in
 30 economics, one-half in civics and American government, not fewer
 31 than two in a world language, not fewer than one in technology and
 32 computer literacy, not fewer than three in biology, physics or
 33 chemistry, not fewer than four in physical education, including at least
 34 one credit in wellness and not fewer than one and one-half in arts,
 35 global awareness, ethics or personal finance.

36 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) Any student who presents a certificate from a physician
 37 stating that, in the opinion of the physician, participation in physical
 38 education is medically contraindicated because of the physical
 39 condition of such student, shall be excused from the physical
 40 education requirement, provided the credit for physical education may
 41 be fulfilled by an elective.

42 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Determination of eligible credits shall be at the discretion of
 43 the local or regional board of education, provided the primary focus of
 44 the curriculum of eligible credits corresponds directly to the subject
 45 matter of the specified course requirements. The local or regional
 46 board of education may permit a student to graduate during a period
 47 of expulsion pursuant to section 10-233d, if the board determines the
 48 student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits pursuant to

49 this section. The requirements of this section shall apply to any student
 50 requiring special education pursuant to section 10-76a, except when
 51 the planning and placement team for such student determines the
 52 requirement not to be appropriate. For purposes of this section, a
 53 credit shall consist of not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute
 54 class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or
 55 part of a credit toward high school graduation earned at an institution
 56 accredited by the Department of Higher Education or regionally
 57 accredited.

58 [(e)] (f) Only courses taken in grades nine through twelve, inclusive,
 59 shall satisfy this graduation requirement, except that a local or regional
 60 board of education may grant a student credit (1) toward meeting a
 61 specified course requirement upon the successful completion in grade
 62 seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds
 63 directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in
 64 grades nine to twelve, inclusive; or (2) toward meeting the high school
 65 graduation requirement upon the successful completion of coursework
 66 at an institution accredited by the Department of Higher Education or
 67 regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its
 68 equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for
 69 purposes of this section.

70 [(f)] (g) A local or regional board of education may offer one-half
 71 credit in community service which, if satisfactorily completed, shall
 72 qualify for high school graduation credit pursuant to this section,
 73 provided such community service is supervised by a certified school
 74 administrator or teacher and consists of not less than fifty hours of
 75 actual service that may be performed at times when school is not
 76 regularly in session and not less than ten hours of related classroom
 77 instruction. For purposes of this section, community service does not
 78 include partisan political activities. The State Board of Education shall
 79 assist local and regional boards of education in meeting the
 80 requirements of this section.

81 [(g)] (h) A local or regional board of education may award a

82 diploma to a veteran of World War II, pursuant to section 27-103, who
83 left high school prior to graduation in order to serve in the armed
84 forces of the United States and did not receive a diploma as a
85 consequence of such service.

86 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10-16b of the general statutes is
87 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
88 *1, 2007*):

89 (b) (1) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to
90 take a course in a foreign language in order to graduate or receive a
91 diploma prior to 2011, the parent or guardian of a pupil identified as
92 deaf or hearing impaired may request in writing that such pupil be
93 exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is made, such
94 pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

95 (2) The parent or guardian of a pupil identified as deaf or hearing
96 impaired who is a member of a class graduating in 2011, or of any
97 graduating class thereafter, may request from the local or regional
98 board of education, in writing, that such pupil be exempt from the
99 requirement to complete not fewer than two credits in a world
100 language in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of section
101 10-221a, as amended by this act, and, if such a request is made, such
102 pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

103 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 10-223a of the general statutes is
104 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
105 *1, 2007*):

106 (b) On or before September 1, 2002, each local and regional board of
107 education shall specify the basic skills necessary for graduation for
108 classes graduating in 2006, and for each graduating class thereafter,
109 and include a process to assess a student's level of competency in such
110 skills. The assessment criteria shall include, but shall not exclusively be
111 based on, the results of the tenth grade mastery examination pursuant
112 to section 10-14n. Each local and regional board of education shall

113 identify a course of study for those students who have not successfully
114 completed the assessment criteria to assist such students to reach a
115 satisfactory level of competency prior to graduation. For classes
116 graduating in 2011, and for each graduating class thereafter, a student
117 shall achieve the level of proficiency or higher on each component of
118 the tenth grade mastery examination pursuant to section 10-14n in
119 order to graduate or receive a diploma. A local or regional board of
120 education, with the approval of the Department of Education, may
121 provide an academically acceptable alternative to the requirement of
122 proficiency on each component of such examination.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-221a
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-16b(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-223a(b)

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-221a
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-16b(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-223a(b)

ED***Joint Favorable C/R******APP***